

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Withdrawn) A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:
  - a) assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
  - b) receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
  - c) identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
  - d) displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
  - e) receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
  - f) extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
  - g) receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and
  - h) extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page.
2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page, and preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.
3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and generating a bid proposal using the

bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.

4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further comprising entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

6. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- i) computer code for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
- j) computer code for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- k) computer code for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- l) computer code for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- m) computer code for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- n) computer code for extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
- o) computer code for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and

- p) computer code for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page.

7. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, computer code for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page, and computer code for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.

8. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and computer code for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.

9. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, computer code for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and computer code for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

10. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, computer code for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and computer code for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- a) means for assigning each of a plurality of supply chain participant stores, distributors and suppliers in an independent supply chain an identifier;

b) means for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier, wherein the database includes contract information for the supply chain participants, and wherein the database is updated to reflect current information on at least an every other day basis;

c) means for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;

d) means for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier, wherein each of the second web page, the third web page, and the fourth web page extract some different data from the database based on the identifier;

e) means for receiving a request from a store, the request including a plurality of store parameters;

f) means for extracting information from the database relevant to the store parameters in response to the request from the store and displaying the information on the second web-page;

g) means for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;

f) means for extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request ~~for~~ from the distributor and displaying the information on the third web-page;

g) means for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and

h) means for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request from the supplier and ~~for~~ displaying the information on the fourth web-page.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~13~~11, further comprising means for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, means for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page, and means for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~13~~11, further comprising means for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and means for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~13~~11, further comprising means for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, means for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and means for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

15. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 13, further comprising means for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, means for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and means for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

16. (Withdrawn) A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- q) a computer signal for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
- r) a computer signal for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- s) a computer signal for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;

- t) a computer signal for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- u) a computer signal for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- v) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
- w) a computer signal for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and
- x) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page.

17. (Withdrawn) The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, a computer signal for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page, and a computer signal for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.

18. (Withdrawn) The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and a computer signal for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.

19. (Withdrawn) The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, a computer signal for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and a computer signal for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

20. (Withdrawn) The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, a computer signal for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and a computer signal for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

a computer readable medium containing computer readable program code to be executed by a computer, the computer readable program code comprising

a) program code means for assigning each of a plurality of supply chain participant stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;

b) program code means for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier, wherein the database includes contract information for the supply chain participants, and wherein the database is updated to reflect current information on at least an every other day basis;

c) program code means for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier; and

d) program code means for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier, wherein each of the second web page, the third web page, and the fourth web page extract some different data from the database based on the identifier.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising the steps of:

- y) receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- z) extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request;
- aa) receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- bb) extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request;
- cc) identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface;
- dd) associating the contract with an item to be distributed; and
- ee) preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.

23. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- ff) computer code for receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- gg) computer code for extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request;
- hh) computer code for receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- ii) computer code for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request;
- jj) computer code for identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface;
- kk) computer code for associating the contract with an item to be distributed; and
- ll) computer code for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- a) means for receiving a request from a distributor in an independent supply chain utilizing a network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- b) means for extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request from the distributor, wherein the database includes contract information for supply chain participants of the independent supply chain, and wherein the database is updated to reflect current information on at least an every other day basis;
- c) means for receiving a request from a supplier in the independent supply chain utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- d) means for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request from the supplier, wherein the information relative to the supplier parameters is different from the information relevant to the distributor parameters;
- e) means for identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface;
- f) means for associating the contract with an item to be distributed; and
- g) means for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.

25. (Withdrawn) A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- mm) a computer signal for receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- nn) a computer signal for extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request;

- oo) a computer signal for receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- pp) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request;
- qq) a computer signal for identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface;
- rr) a computer signal for associating the contract with an item to be distributed;  
and
- ss) a computer signal for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.

26. (Withdrawn) A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising the steps:

- tt) assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
- uu) receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- vv) identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- ww) displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- xx) receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- yy) generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;
- zz) entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
- aaa) listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page; and
- (i) selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

27. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- bbb) computer code for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
- ccc) computer code for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- ddd) computer code for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- eee) computer code for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- fff) computer code for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- ggg) computer code for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;
- hhh) computer code for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
- iii) computer code for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page; and
- (i) computer code for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

28. (Withdrawn) A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- jjj) a computer signal for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
- kkk) a computer signal for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- lll) a computer signal for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- mmm) a computer signal for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- nnn) a computer signal for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;

- ooo) a computer signal for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;
- ppp) a computer signal for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
- qqq) a computer signal for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page; and
- (i) a computer signal for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

29. (Currently Amended) A system for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- a) means for assigning each of a plurality of supply chain participant stores, distributors and suppliers in an independent supply chain an identifier;
- b) means for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier, wherein the database includes contract information for the supply chain participants, and wherein the database is updated to reflect current information on at least an every other day basis;
- c) means for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- d) means for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier, with each web-page displaying different data extracted from the database based on the identifier;
- e) means for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- f) means for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;

g) means for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;

h) means for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page; and

i) means for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.

30. (Withdrawn) A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising the steps of:

- rrr) receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- sss) extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request;
- ttt) receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- uuu) extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request;
- vvv) identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface;
- www) associating the contract with an item to be distributed;
- xxx) preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract;
- yyy) displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- zzz) allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and
- aaaa) calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

31. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- bbbb) computer code for receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- cccc) computer code for extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request;
- dddd) computer code for receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- eeee) computer code for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request;
- ffff) computer code for identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface;
- gggg) computer code for associating the contract with an item to be distributed;
- hhhh) computer code for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract;
- iiii) computer code for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- jjjj) computer code for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and
- kkkk) computer code for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

32. (Withdrawn) A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- llll) a computer signal for receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- mmmm) a computer signal for extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request;
- nnnn) a computer signal for receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;

- oooo) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request;
- pppp) a computer signal for identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management interface;
- qqqq) a computer signal for associating the contract with an item to be distributed;
- rrrr) a computer signal for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract;
- ssss) a computer signal for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- tttt) a computer signal for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and
- uuuu) a computer signal for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

33. (Withdrawn) A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising the steps of:
- vvvv) assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
  - wwwv) receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
  - xxxx) identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
  - yyyy) displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
  - zzzz) receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
  - aaaa) extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
  - bbbb) receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
  - cccc) extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page

- dddddd) identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- eeeeee) associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page;
- fffff) preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract;
- ggggg) receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- hhhhh) generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;
- iiiiii) entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
- jjjjj) listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page;
- kkkkk) selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis;
- lllll) displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- mmmmm) allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and
- nnnnn) calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

34. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- ooooo) computer code for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
- ppppp) computer code for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- qqqqq) computer code for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- rrrrr) computer code for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- sssss) computer code for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;

- ttttt) computer code for extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
- uuuuu) computer code for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- vvvvv) computer code for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page
- wwwww) computer code for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- xxxxx) computer code for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page;
- yyyyy) computer code for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract;
- zzzzz) computer code for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- aaaaa) computer code for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;
- bbbbbb) computer code for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
- cccccc) computer code for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page;
- dddddd) computer code for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis;
- eeeeee) computer code for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- ffffff) computer code for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and
- gggggg) computer code for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

35. (Withdrawn) A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- hhhhh) a computer signal for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
- iiiiii) a computer signal for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- jjjjjj) a computer signal for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- kkkkkk) a computer signal for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- llllll) a computer signal for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- mmmmm) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
- nnnnnn) a computer signal for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- oooooo) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page
- pppppp) a computer signal for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- qqqqqq) a computer signal for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page;
- rrrrrr) a computer signal for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract;
- ssssss) a computer signal for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- ttttt) a computer signal for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;
- uuuuuu) a computer signal for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
- vvvvvv) a computer signal for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page;

- wwwwww) a computer signal for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis;
- xxxxxx) a computer signal for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- yyyyyy) a computer signal for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and
- zzzzzz) a computer signal for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.

36. (Currently Amended) A system for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

- a) means for assigning each of a plurality of supply chain participant stores, distributors and suppliers in an independent supply chain an identifier;
- b) means for receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier, wherein the database includes contract information for the supply chain participants, and wherein the database is updated to reflect current information on at least an every other day basis;
- c) means for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- d) means for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- e) means for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- f) means for extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in response to the request from the distributor and ~~for~~ displaying the information on the third web-page, wherein some of the information relative to the distributor parameters is different from the information relevant to the store parameters;

- g) means for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters;
- h) means for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in response to the request from the supplier and for displaying the information on the fourth web-page, wherein some of the information relative to the supplier parameters is different from the information relevant to the store and distributor parameters;
- i) means for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- j) means for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page;
- k) means for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract;
- l) means for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
- m) means for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date;
- n) means for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
- o) means for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page;
- p) means for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis;
- q) means for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;

r) means for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and

s) means for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.